**SURPLUS** is the keyword for the 2024 NeMLA convention for critical and creative work that, in addition to the commonly associated meanings of profit and value, can be more broadly construed as excess or excessive, as surfeit, or what is leftover, or unwanted: an excess of emotions (anger, fear, passion, desire), for example; or surplus time (leisure or its absence); or populations rendered “surplus”—migrants, the marginalized, the unemployed, the incarcerated.

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**2024 OPENING ADDRESS**


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**2024 KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**TIPHANIE YANIQUE**, a professor at Emory University, is the acclaimed writer of the novel *Land of Love and Drowning*—the focus of “NeMLA Reads Together”—which won the 2014 Flaherty-Dunnan First Novel Award and the Phillis Wheatley Award for Pan-African Literature, among other honors.